Persons Died and Injured in Mines Accidents

1333. SHRI V. P. DURAISAMY: Will the Minister of be LABOUR pleased to state:

(a) the details of number of persons died and injured inaccodents which occurred in Indian mines in the year 1998;

(b) whether the safety norms/measures available in Indian mines are that of International Standard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, whether Government will take necessary steps to modernise the existing safety measures available in the Indian mines?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) The details of number of persons died and injured in accidents which occurred in Indian mines in the year 1998 are given below:—

SI. No.	Mines	Number of Accidents		Number of persons	
		Fatal	Serious	killed	seriously injured
1.	Coal	127	501	145	529
2.	Oil	7 54	20	8	21
3.	Non-Coal		240	60	259
	Total	188	761	213	809

(b) to (d) Detailed precautionary measures to improve safety in mines have been laid down in the Mines Act, 1952 and the rules and Regulations framed thereunder. It is the responsibility of the mines management to comply with the same. The owner and agent of every mine are responsible for making financial and other provisions and for taking other such steps as may be necessary for compliance with the safety laws. The Directorate Geneal of Mines Safety has the responsibility to see that the safety statute is kept updated keeping into account the technical advancements as well as to make the same comprehensive, practical and legally sound and also to carry out periodic inspection of mines to oversee compliance of safety laws. Each and every accident involving fatality is enquired into by an officer of Directorate Geneal of Mines Safety.

Besides the legislative measures, Government is also taking promotional initiatives which *inter alia* include:—

1. Organisation of conference on Safety in Mines.

2. National Safety Awards.

3A Vocational Training.

4. Observance of Safety weeks, compaigns etc.

5. Holding of First Aid and Rescure Competitions.

6. Participation of workers in safety management.

7. Self Regulation by management.

8. Imparting of training to the inspecting staff in advanced countries to update their functional capabilities.

The safety norms/measures available in Indian Mines are comparable with those of the international standards.